

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: Robert T. Bell et al.

Serial No.: 09/032,083

Filing Date: February 27, 1998

Group Art Unit: 2663

Examiner: Huy D. Vu

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING
SIGNALING ON BEHALF OF A STATELESS CLIENT

Technology Center 2600

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, Robert T. Bell, an inventor in the above-identified Patent Application, hereby make the following declaration:

1. I am an inventor of the subject matter of the above-referenced Application entitled "System And Method For Performing Signaling On Behalf Of A Stateless Client," filed on February 27, 1998.

2. The Examiner rejected all claims of the current Application in an Official Action dated May 23, 2001 based, in whole or in part, on U.S. Patent No. 6,201,804, entitled "Network Telephony Interface Systems Between Data Network Telephony and Plain Old Telephone Service Including CTI Enhancement," filed on March 9, 1998 and issued on March 13, 2001 (the "Kikinis Patent"), a division of Application No. 09/024,923, filed on February 17, 1998 (the "Effective Date").

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3. My co-inventors and I worked for the company Selsius Systems during development of the concepts embodied in the current Application. After filing of the current Application, Cisco Systems, the current assignee, acquired Selsius Systems.

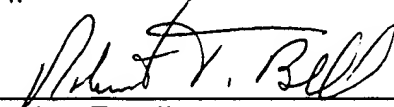
4. While working at Selsius Systems and prior to the Effective Date, my co-inventors and I developed a working application, named "Call Manager," that incorporated, among other concepts, the system and method for performing signaling on behalf of a stateless client of the present invention as disclosed and claimed in the current Application. Prior to the Effective Date, the Call Manager application was operational and ready for use.

5. Our completion of a working version of Call Manager prior to the Effective Date is evidenced by a presentation entitled "Providing PBX Telephony with your IP LAN/WAN Network," a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A. This presentation, which was prepared on or before January 19, 1998, demonstrates that a working version of Call Manager existed at least as early as January 19, 1998.

6. Page 3 of Exhibit A is a slide showing a network including elements similar to those illustrated in Figure 2 of the current Application. This slide illustrates a Call Manager application controlling elements similar to the stateless clients and state-based terminals of Figure 2. Moreover, pages 11 and 12 of Exhibit A enumerate selected product functionalities and content supported by the Call Manager application at least as early as January 19, 1998.

7. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application or any patent issuing thereon.

Executed this 16th day of June, 2004.


Robert T. Bell